The Impact of Local Satisfaction on Youth Settlement: Focusing on the Moderating Effect of Local Experience in Gwangju

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Abstract

The concentration of young populations from small and medium-sized cities to nearby major cities or the capital region is a global phenomenon, not just limited to South Korea. Since 2017, the population distribution in the capital region, centered around Seoul, has accounted for more than half of South Korea's total population, and this trend continues. This study aims to investigate the impact of local satisfaction on local settlement among young people living in the Gwangju area. Specifically, it analyzes whether young people's local experiences have a moderating effect on this relationship. Based on a survey of young people in Gwangju, the study employs Baron & Kenny's three-step multiple regression analysis to verify the moderating effects. The results indicate that economic satisfaction and socio-cultural satisfaction, along with local experiences, positively influence young people's local settlement. It was found that experiences during primary and secondary school did not have any moderating effect on the relationship between local satisfaction and settlement. However, local and work experiences showed a reinforcing moderating effect when economic and satisfaction with education and medical services positively influenced local settlement. Conversely, local and work experiences did not show any moderating effects regarding satisfaction with interpersonal relationships, familiarity, and likability. Contrary to general expectations, the lack of a moderating effect of school experiences on the relationship between local satisfaction and settlement among young people is noteworthy. Therefore, the policy implications of these findings suggest that local experiences during young adulthood are crucial for local settlement. It is essential to accumulate sufficient local experiences through Community-Based Learning. Additionally, primary and secondary schools should provide ample out-of-school programs in collaboration with the local community to give adolescents opportunities to experience the local society.

Keywords: youth population, local settlement, local experiences, moderating effect

I. Introduction

Since 2017, South Korea has faced the phenomenon of reversal in the population distribution between the capital area and non-capital areas, which results in the concentration of young people in the capital area. Especially, the rapid relocation into the capital area of young people from the non-capital regions has led to the severe deterioration of local communities in this country. That is why the sustainable development of non-capital region communities is threatened by the outflow of young population to the capital region. This outflow contributes to low birth rates and high aging rates in these regions. To establish the sustainable development of local communities, the maintenance of a stable youth population in an individual community is considered to be one of the most critical factors.

In this context, we will try to identify the meaningful factors between the level of satisfaction from community experiences through community-based learning and the possibility of youth settlement in the locality. Generally speaking, economic factors have been identified as the main cause of the young population's outflow.

For this, Gwangju Metropolitan City, which is located around 300km south of the capital area and surrounded by agricultural communities, was selected; the youths in this city were asked to answer 'The survey on the local awareness according to the local experience of local youths'. The questionnaire was designed to indicate the satisfaction level from four main categories: economic aspects, socio-cultural aspects, the infrastructure of education and medical service, and human relationships (intimacy and likability). The study uses survey data from university students and graduates in Gwangju, Daegu, and Chuncheon in Gangwon Province; this time this paper focuses the survey on Gwangju Metropolitan City. As the method of analysis, Baron & Kenny's Hierarchical Regression Analysis is used to determine the factors influencing local settlement related to local satisfaction and experiences. The goal is to explore the mechanisms of moderating effects between youth's local experiences and settlement. With the results, effective policies for sustainable local community development can be suggested in the future.

II. Theoretical Background

1. Studies on the Actual Conditions of Youth Migration

In general, the movement of the young population in South Korea is known to follow two main patterns. The first is the migration of students moving from middle school to high school, typically from

rural areas to regional mid-sized cities. The second pattern occurs when students transition from high school to college. This involves moving from rural areas or mid-sized cities to colleges in the metropolitan area, as well as from rural areas to mid-sized cities with local colleges.

Kim Hyun-woo and Kang Myung-goo (2020) reported that people in their 20s would choose to move to other regions if they could secure a minimum income, preferring areas that offer desired jobs and urban amenities. Young people particularly move to the capital region to achieve "stability within instability," seeking job security and the ability to frequently change jobs. Complex cultural spaces such as coffee shops, which serve as places for study, work, social interaction, and leisure, also influence population movements.

According to the survey of the Gwangju Youth Survey Report (2020), many young people who graduated from universities in Gwangju and now live in the capital region have no intention of returning to Gwangju. The primary reasons include the presence of important life foundations and higher employment possibilities in the capital region. Lee Chan-young and Moon Je-cheol (2016) revealed that the outflow of population from Gwangju and Jeonnam occurs mainly among people in their 20s, heavily influenced by employment conditions. Particularly, young people are affected by the quality of jobs. Regardless of age, various factors related to the quality of life (e.g., *jeonse* prices, cultural services, benefits, educational conditions) also have an impact.

Other local cities mentioned above such as Gangwon Province (Chuncheon, Wonju, and Gangneung) and Daegu and Gyeongbuk regions also show similar trends with Gwangju. Kim Yong-hyun (2012) found that young people in the Daegu and Gyeongbuk regions migrate to the capital or southeastern regions due to wage gaps and job satisfaction factors like welfare systems, autonomy and authority in their work, and overall satisfaction with their current job. Specifically, if all other conditions are equal, the probability of youth migration increases by 30-40% if companies in the capital region offer wages that are one million KRW(USD 740) higher than those in regional areas. Im Dong-il (2011): His analysis of the determinants of population movement in the three major cities of Gangwon Province (Chuncheon, Wonju, and Gangneung) showed that employment opportunities and educational opportunities significantly affect population movements.

2. Studies on Local Settlement

Son Ji-hyun and Park Moo-il (2019) suggests that the sense of community among local residents influences life satisfaction, and that informal support systems (family support, friend support) have a moderating effect. 2019 Youth Social Life Survey identified jobs as the most crucial factor for youth

local settlement. Other necessary conditions included cultural and recreational facilities, transportation connectivity, and low housing and living costs.

3. Studies on Local Satisfaction

From a social welfare perspective, Kim Joo-jin and Na Ju-mong (2021) emphasizes the importance of the quantity and quality of relationships among community members for local satisfaction. The study considers economic aspects, social and cultural aspects, education and medical welfare infrastructure, and aspects related to human relationships, familiarity, and likability.

4. Studies on Local Experience

Kim Ji-hoon (2020) found that policy support and short-term experience programs significantly influence the decision of youth to choose Ulleungdo. Particularly, youth with no ties to Ulleungdo decided to move there after encountering related programs or policies online. Lee Chang-hyun and Park Ji-hyun (2023) argue that it is crucial for youth to form relationships with local residents by participating in spaces operated by youth and programs (experiences, clubs, etc.) organized within the region.

5. Theoretical Background: Community-Based Learning (CBL)

Woo Eun-Ju et al.(2020) suggested that CBL was employed to provide a tangible and intangible resources of tourism to establish a unified tourism management class effectively for college students. With regard this, accumulating local experiences through CBL enhances youth's local satisfaction and willingness to settle. It demonstrates that local experiences should be accumulated not only through university curricula but also in connection with local communities, and that the effect of local settlement appears only when these experiences are sustained over a certain period.

6. Differentiation from Previous Research

There are few empirical studies that use local satisfaction as independent variables and local experience as moderating variables to examine youth's local settlement. In addition, there has been no research showing that local experiences during elementary and secondary school years and those during adulthood after college have different moderating effects on young people's intention to settle in a region.

Ⅲ. Research Model and Analysis Methods

1. Research Model and Hypothesis Setting

This study aims to identify the degree of influence among local satisfaction, local experiences, and local settlement intentions of young people in the Gwangju area, and to determine whether local experiences have a moderating effect between local satisfaction and local settlement intentions. The analysis was based on survey results from 400 young people aged 20 to 34 in the Gwangju area (203 males and 197 females). Their academic statuses were as follows: 208 current students, 53 students on leave, 89 graduates preparing for employment, and 50 already employed. Hierarchical regression analysis was conducted using SPSS. The dependent variable was local settlement intention, the independent variable was local satisfaction, and the three moderating variables were local experiences during elementary and secondary school years, local experiences during college, and work experiences. The main research hypotheses are as follows.

Hypothesis 1: Youth's local satisfaction will have a significant impact on their local settlement.

Hypothesis 2: Youth's local experience will have a significant impact on their local settlement.

Hypothesis 3: Youth's local experience will have a moderating effect on the relationship between local satisfaction and local settlement.
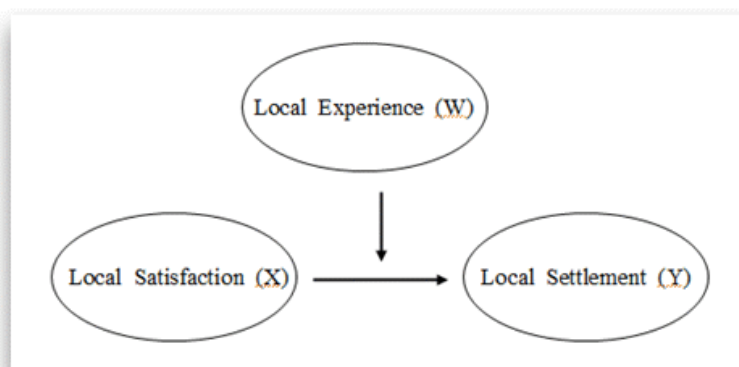

Figure 1. Moderating Effect Model

2. Analysis Methods and Measurement Variables

The measurement variables were determined by analyzing previous studies, as shown in Table 1, and included dependent variables, independent variables, and moderating variables. The dependent variable was the local settlement intentions of young people. The independent variables were satisfaction with four aspects of the residential area: economic, socio-cultural, educational and medical welfare infrastructure, and human relationships-familiarity-likability. The moderating variables included three types of experiences: school experiences during elementary and secondary school years, local experiences, and work experiences. The analysis tool applied the three-step moderation effect verification method by Baron & Kenny (1986) using multiple regression analysis to confirm the moderation effect. Additionally, to prevent multi-collinearity, Mean Centering was conducted for all variables.

Table 1. Measurement Variables

Variables	Type	Variables
Dependent Variable (Y)	Local Settlement	Local Settlement(L_S)
Independent Variable (X)	Local Satisfaction	Economic Satisfaction(E_S)
		Socio-cultural Satisfaction(SC_S)
		Satisfaction with Educational and Medical Infrastructure(EM_S)
		Satisfaction with Human Relationships, Familiarity, and Likability(EM_S)
Moderating Variable (W)	Local Experience	Elementary, Middle, and High School local Experience(Sch_E)
		Local Experience(L_E)
		Work Experience(W_E)

cf) Parentheses are used as abbreviations for variables in the tables here after.

Ⅳ. Empirical Analysis and Discussion

1. Analysis of the Characteristics and Reliability of Measurement Variables

The descriptive statistics for the measurement variables showed that the mean values ranged from 2.0 to 3.57. Work experience was the lowest, while relationship satisfaction was the highest (Table 2). Examining the absolute values of skewness and kurtosis for the study variables, skewness ranged from 0.003 to 0.253, and kurtosis ranged from 0.120 to 2.121. Since the skewness and kurtosis statistics were below the absolute value of 2, the survey instruments used in this study did not violate normality and demonstrated a normal distribution (Lee, 2022).

Table 2. Results of Descriptive Statistics for Measurement Variables (n=400)

	Min	Max	Mean	SD	F	Skew	Kurt	Cronbach's Alpha	Tolerance	VIF
E_S	1	5	3.35	0.790	0.653	-0.003	0.282	0.798	0.580	1.573
SC_S	1	5	3.08	0.855	0.778	-0.033	0.227	0.803	0.185	1.928
EM_S	1	5	3.27	0.796	0.671	0.106	0.565	0.802	0.342	2.338
R_S	1	5	3.54	0.819	0.692	0.229	-0.017	0.802	0.475	1.680
Sch_E	0	4	3.38	1.050	1.103	-1.703	2.121	0.789	0.590	1.680
L_E	0	4	2.01	1.241	1.541	-0.253	-1.030	0.795	0.526	1.495
W_E	0	4	2.00	1.282	1.644	-0.186	-1.140	0.791	0.628	1.657
Settle	1	3	1.99	0.456	-	-0.030	1.856	0.793	-	-

To verify the reliability of the three factors of regional experience, focusing on whether local experience has a moderating effect, Cronbach's Alpha values were calculated. All variables had values above 0.7, indicating reliability (Table 2). The multi-collinearity issue among variables is also considered absent, as all VIF values are below 5, as shown in Table 2.

2. Analysis of Correlation Between Variables

Pearson correlation analysis was conducted to examine the relationships between the dependent variable, local settlement, and the independent variables of economic, socio-cultural, educational and medical welfare infrastructure of the residential area, as well as human relationships - familiarity -

likability, and the moderating variables of primary and secondary school experiences, local experiences, and work experiences. The analysis results indicated non-significant correlations between local settlement and school experiences and work experiences; socio-cultural experiences and school experiences and work experiences; school experiences have correlation with only economic satisfaction out of local satisfactions; local experiences have correlations with all variables except education-medical service satisfaction; workplace experiences have correlations with all variables except socio-cultural satisfaction (Table 3). Table 3 shows that the correlation coefficients between local satisfaction, local experiences, and local settlement indicate no multi-collinearity between variables (r<0.8). The dependent variable, local settlement, has a negative impact on all variables of local satisfaction and local experiences, showing an inverse relationship. In particular, economic satisfaction shows the highest correlation with local settlement. There is no significant correlation between local settlement and school experiences or workplace experiences.

Table 3. Results of correlation analysis between measurement variables

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
L_S	1							
E_S	-0.278***	1						
SC_S	-0.146**	0.486***	1					
EM_S	-0.084*	0.503***	0.635***	1				
R_S	-0.097**	0.381***	0.350***	0.568***	1			
Sch_E	-0.078	0.127**	-0.050	0.013	-0.063	1		
L_E	-0.119**	0.174***	0.094*	0.070	-0.140**	0.504***	1	
W_E	-0.013	0.092*	-0.030	-0.110*	-0.165***	0.445***	0.498***	1

*$p<0.05$, **$p<0.01$, ***$p<0.001$

3. Analysis of Moderating Effects

Baron & Kenny's (1986) three-step multiple regression verification method was used to verify the impact of local satisfaction on local settlement and the moderating effect of local experiences between them. [Model 1] analyzed the influence of control variables such as gender and academic status on the dependent variable, local settlement. [Model 2] analyzed the impact of local satisfaction (independent variable) and its moderating variables—primary and secondary school experiences, local experiences, and workplace experiences—on the dependent variable, local settlement. Finally, in [Model 3], interaction terms between local settlement, local satisfaction, and each moderating variable were simultaneously included to analyze their combined impact.

3.1) Impact of local satisfaction on local settlement

In the first step, control variables were entered. In the second step, control variables and local satisfaction and local experience variables were entered (Table 4).

Table 4. Analysis Results of Model 1 & 2

Variables		Model 1 Local Satisfaction → Local Settlement				Model 2 Local Experience → Local Settlement			
		B	β	S.E	t(p)	B	β	S.E	t(p)
(Constant)		-0.130	-	0.072	-1.809	-0.086	-	0.070	-1.223
Control	gender	0.001	0.001	0.047	0.014	-0.034	-0.037	0.047	-0.713
	enrollment	0.121	0.133	0.073	1.668	0.106	0.117	0.071	1.498
	leave	0.159	0.118	0.092	1.737	0.125	0.093	0.090	1.396
	graduation	**0.219**	**0.200**	**0.080**	**2.723****	0.150	0.137	0.079	1.896
Independent (Satisfaction)	economy					**-0.160**	**-0.278**	**0.035**	**-4.604*****
	socio-cult					-0.049	-0.091	0.036	-1.371
	edu-medic					**0.092**	**0.160**	**0.042**	**2.181***
	relationship					-0.024	-0.043	0.035	-0.683
Moderating (Experience)	school					-0.015	-0.035	0.025	-0.593
	local					-0.034	-0.093	0.023	-1.478
	work					0.026	0.074	0.021	1.234
R / R²		0.139 / 0.019				0.327 / 0.107			
Adj. R²		0.009				0.082			
Significance(F change)		0.102				0.000			
F(p)						4.236***			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 ※ reference group(gender-male, status-job)

The analysis results of [Model 2] indicated that the regression models were appropriate (F=4.236(p<.001). The R^2 values were 0.019 for [Model 1], 0.107 for [Model 2], with increases of 0.088 in R^2. The R^2 change (F=3.688) had a significance probability of p=0.000, indicating that the independent variable significantly explained the dependent variable after the control variables were included. [Model 1] and [Model 2] showed no multicollinearity issues, with tolerance (TOL) values above 0.1 and VIF values below 5 (Table 2). This suggests that there is a moderating effect, and

naturally, the interaction terms are also statistically significant (Lee, 2022). The F-values of step 2 and step 3 show that the moderating variable of elementary and middle school experiences is statistically significant at the $p<0.001$ level with respect to the independent and dependent variables.

In the relationship between local settlement and local satisfaction, elementary and middle school experiences show statistically significant moderating effects on the dependent variable, local settlement, at levels of $p < 0.001$ for economic satisfaction and $p < 0.05$ for satisfaction with education and medical welfare. However, the interaction terms between local satisfaction and elementary and middle school experiences do not show statistically significant moderating effects.

3.2) Impact of local experiences as moderating variables on local settlement

In [Model 2], the regression coefficient test for local satisfaction revealed that only economic satisfaction had a statistically significant negative effect on local satisfaction ($t=-4.604$, $p=0.000$). In contrast, satisfaction with education and medical services had a statistically significant positive effect on local satisfaction ($t=2.181$, $p=0.05$). The negative sign of the economic satisfaction coefficient ($\beta=-0.278$) indicated that increased economic satisfaction decreased the intention to settle in the region, while the positive sign of the education and medical services satisfaction coefficient ($\beta=0.160$) indicated that increased satisfaction in these areas increased the intention to settle in the region.

3.3) Impact of interaction terms on local settlement

In [Model 3], only economic satisfaction among local satisfaction factors had a statistically significant negative effect on local settlement ($t=-4.681$, $p=0.000$). Among local experiences, only job experience had a statistically significant positive effect on local settlement ($t=2.131$, $p<0.05$). Thus, the negative sign of the economic satisfaction coefficient ($\beta=-0.285$) indicated that increased economic satisfaction decreased the intention to settle in the region. Additionally, the positive sign of the job experience coefficient ($\beta=0.136$) indicated that increased job experience increased the intention to settle in the region.

Table 5. Analysis Results of Model 2 & 3

Variables		Model 2 Local Experience → Local Settlement				Model 3 Local_E*Local_S → Local Settlement			
		B	β	S.E	t(p)	B	β	S.E	t(p)
(Constant)		-0.086	-	0.070	-1.223	-0.069	-	0.069	-1.010
Control	gender	-0.034	-0.037	0.047	-0.713	-0.029	-0.032	0.046	-0.629
	enrollment	0.106	0.117	0.071	1.498	0.058	0.063	0.070	0.817
	leave	0.125	0.093	0.090	1.396	0.064	0.047	0.088	0.724
	graduation	0.150	0.137	0.079	1.896	0.068	0.062	0.078	0.879
Independent (Satisfaction)	**economy**	**-0.160**	**-0.278**	**0.035**	**-4.604*****	**-0.164**	**-0.285**	**0.035**	**-4.681*****
	socio-culture	-0.049	-0.091	0.036	-1.371	-0.043	-0.081	0.035	-1.224
	edu-medical	**0.092**	**0.160**	**0.042**	**2.181***	0.082	0.143	0.044	1.843
	relationship	-0.024	-0.043	0.035	-0.683	-0.009	-0.017	0.038	-0.245
Moderating (Experience)	school	-0.015	-0.035	0.025	-0.593	-0.036	-0.083	0.027	-1.356
	local	-0.034	-0.093	0.023	-1.478	-0.021	-0.056	0.025	-0.834
	work	0.026	0.074	0.021	1.234	**0.048**	**0.136**	**0.023**	**2.131***
(Sch_E*E_S)						-0.011	-0.023	0.033	-0.343
(Sch_E*SC_S)						-0.012	-0.026	0.039	-0.319
(Sch_E*EM_S)						0.048	0.102	0.045	1.061
(Sch_E*R_S)						0.003	0.006	0.035	0.081
(L_E*E_S)						0.038	0.090	0.032	1.210
(L_E*SC_S)						**0.065**	**0.171**	**0.029**	**2.252***
(L_E*EM_S)						**-0.070**	**-0.174**	**0.032**	**-2.158***
(L_E*R_S)						-0.018	-0.043	0.030	-0.591
(W_E*E_S)						**0.105**	**0.241**	**0.030**	**3.547*****
(W_E*SC_S)						0.018	0.046	0.027	0.666
(W_E*EM_S)						**-0.071**	**-0.168**	**0.031**	**-2.266***
(W_E*R_S)						-0.029	-0.096	0.027	-1.071
R / R^2		0.327 / 0.107				0.449 / 0.201			
Adj. R^2		0.082				0.152			
Significance(F change)		0.000				0.000			
F(p)		4.236***				4.119***			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 ※ reference group(gender-male, status-job)

Regarding interaction terms, school experience did not show any significant moderating effect on local settlement. However, the interaction terms of local experience with social and cultural satisfaction and with education and medical services satisfaction had statistically

significant effects on local settlement (t=2.252, p<0.05 and t=-2.158, p<0.05, respectively). The interaction terms of job experience with economic satisfaction and with education and medical services satisfaction also had statistically significant effects on local settlement (t=3.547, p=0.000 and t=-2.266, p<0.05, respectively).

The interaction term of local experience with social and cultural satisfaction had a positive coefficient (β=0.171), indicating that local experience strengthens the moderating effect of social and cultural satisfaction on local settlement. Conversely, the interaction term of local experience with education and medical services satisfaction had a negative coefficient (β=-0.174), indicating that local experience weakens the moderating effect of education and medical services satisfaction on local settlement. The interaction term of job experience with economic satisfaction had a positive coefficient (β=0.241), indicating that job experience strengthens the moderating effect of economic satisfaction on local settlement. The interaction term of job experience with education and medical services satisfaction had a negative coefficient (β=-0.168), indicating that job experience weakens the moderating effect of education and medical services satisfaction on local settlement.

Table 6. Hypothesis Testing Results

Hypothesis	
1. Economic satisfaction will have a significant impact on local settlement.	**Accepted**
2. Socio-cultural satisfaction will have a significant impact on local settlement.	Rejected
3. Satisfaction with educational and medical infrastructure will have a significant impact on local settlement.	**Accepted**
4. Satisfaction with relationships, familiarity, and likability will have a significant impact on local settlement.	Rejected
5. Experience in primary and secondary school will have a significant impact on local settlement.	Rejected
6. Local experience will have a significant impact on local settlement.	Rejected
7. Work experience will have a significant impact on local settlement.	**Accepted**

8. Experience in primary and secondary school *economic satisfaction will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
9. Experience in primary and secondary school * socio-cultural satisfaction will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
10. Experience in primary and secondary school *satisfaction with educational and medical infrastructure will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
11. Experience in primary and secondary school *satisfaction with relationships, familiarity, and likability will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
12. Local experience * economic satisfaction will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	**Accepted**
13. Local experience * socio-cultural satisfaction will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	**Accepted**
14. Local experience* satisfaction with educational and medical infrastructure will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
15. Local experience* satisfaction with relationships, familiarity, and likability will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
16. Work experience * economic satisfaction will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	**Accepted**
17. Work experience* socio-cultural satisfaction will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected
18. Work experience *satisfaction with educational and medical infrastructure will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	**Accepted**
19. Work experience* satisfaction with relationships, familiarity, and likability will have a moderating effect on local settlement.	Rejected

V. Conclusion and Implications

This study aims to verify the factors of local satisfaction that can enhance youth settlement and examine the moderating effect of local experience on these factors. Frequency analysis and descriptive statistics were conducted to verify the characteristics of the survey respondents and the reliability and normality of their responses. Correlation analysis was used to check for multi-collinearity among the variables. Next, multiple regression analysis was performed to understand the impact of local satisfaction on local settlement. After confirming the mean centering of the variables, Baron & Kenny's (1986) three-step moderation effect verification method was used to confirm the moderating effect of local experience and determine the acceptance of the research hypotheses.

To investigate whether local experience has a moderating effect when local satisfaction influences local settlement, hierarchical regression analysis was conducted using gender and academic status among general characteristics as control variables after controlling for exogenous variables. [Model 1] examined the impact on local satisfaction by including gender and academic status as control variables.

[Model 2] added local satisfaction as an independent variable to determine whether it affects local settlement even after controlling for exogenous variables. [Model 3] explored whether local experience has a moderating effect when local satisfaction influences local settlement.

The analysis results indicated that the regression models were appropriate: [Model 2] F=4.236(p<.001) and [Model 3] F=4.119(p<.001). The R^2 values were 0.019 for [Model 1], 0.107 for [Model 2], and 0.201 for [Model 3], with increases of 0.088 and 0.094 in R^2 for each subsequent model. The R^2 change (F=3.688) had a significance probability of p=0.000, indicating that the independent variable significantly explained the dependent variable after the control variables were included. All models ([Model 1], [Model 2], [Model 3]) showed no multicollinearity issues, with tolerance (TOL) values above 0.1 and VIF values below 5.

In table 4, the regression coefficient test for local satisfaction revealed that only economic satisfaction had a statistically significant negative effect on local satisfaction (t=-4.604, p=0.000). In contrast, satisfaction with education and medical services had a statistically significant positive effect on local satisfaction (t=2.181, p=0.05). The negative sign of the economic satisfaction coefficient (β=-0.278) indicated that increased economic satisfaction decreased the intention to settle in the region, while the positive sign of the education and medical services satisfaction coefficient (β=0.160) indicated that increased satisfaction in these areas increased the intention to settle in the region. This suggests that young people in Gwangju are dissatisfied with the local's educational and medical welfare infrastructure, which may deter them from settling in the area. In addition, the negative relationship between economic satisfaction and the intention to settle in the region indicates that if they have the economic means, they are willing to move to the metropolitan area.

Direct experiences in primary and secondary school and workplace do not exert a direct significant influence on local settlement. In table 5, school experiences do not show any correlation with regional satisfaction or the intention to settle in the region. However, local experiences significantly impact local settlement among young adults. This indicates that dissatisfaction with Gwangju's educational and medical welfare infrastructure may contribute to a passive attitude towards local settlement, while experiences during young adulthood positively influence local settlement compared to childhood school

experiences. Furthermore, primary and secondary school experiences do not moderate local satisfaction's impact on local settlement, suggesting dissatisfaction among Gwangju's youth with their school life.

In table 4 & 5, Local experiences and work experiences are analyzed to show a reinforcing moderating effect on education and medical service satisfaction and socio-cultural satisfaction influencing local settlement among young adults, while they do not show a moderating effect on satisfaction with economic satisfaction and interpersonal relationships, familiarity, and likability. This suggests that in order to encourage young people to settle, it is necessary to expand good job opportunities, education, and medical services in the Gwangju area.

The policy implications of this analysis also suggest that experiences during young adulthood play a crucial role in local settlement, advocating for Community Based Learning to ensure sufficient local experiences. Developing systematic CBL programs and incorporating them into school curricula can strengthen CBL. Additionally, middle and high schools should offer adequate extracurricular activities in collaboration with the local community to provide youth with opportunities to experience the local society. Furthermore, efforts should focus on promoting local economic development to create sufficient job opportunities, improving middle and high school educational environments, as well as those of college education, and enhancing medical infrastructure to increase youth satisfaction with local education.

Despite analyzing relatively old data from 2019, the study reflects the ongoing concentration of population in the capital region of South Korea and the continued outflow of young populations from local cities. Therefore, it is believed to reasonably reflect overall trends. Conducting comparative analyses with other cities such as Daegu and Chuncheon would have enhanced the study's fidelity. Exploring and analyzing other variables beyond local satisfaction and experiences could yield more comprehensive research results aimed at enhancing youth settlement in local regions.

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